The new menu at the Mandara Spa is MMMMMMM.....

Entering the environs of the Mandara Spa located in the Marriot Ocean Club could be likened to stepping into another dimension. Not a frightening one like "The Twilight Zone" but a surrounding of grace and serenity, where everyone is devoted to making you feel relaxed and comfortable. This is the world of Mandara Spa, and it is a world unto itself, with a surprisingly large facility behind those doors, and each room a private pocket of peace and relaxation.

That is the first revelation; the size of Mandara Spa, which managers Milarca Wederfort and Mirella Perrotte acknowledged could accommodate a group of one hundred at a time. A complete staff of therapists was waiting for press members who had been invited to sample their new "menu" on Monday morning, which features the Elemis product line, exclusively carried in Aruba by the Mandara Spa. One of the first to open on the island in 2000, Mandara Spas are a world renowned franchise, dedicated to service and quality.

A representative from THE NEWS received a package of a Ginger Lime Salt Glow Scrub, a massage, and the Elemis Facial. This two-hour package could only be described as the ultimate indulgence, something that every hardworking individual deserves at least once in awhile.

Therapist Rosa proved to be congenial and more than competent. Tight muscles and stress vanished under the manipulations of her skilled fingers, and while wrapped in the salt scrub a scalp and face massage further enhanced the feeling of repose. Gathering in the garden afterwards to discuss the experience, all press members acknowledged a feeing of renewal and refreshment. What a way to start the week!

Such a treatment is easily available to island guests and residents seven days a week. Malarca confessed that islanders will find them less busy on the weekends, with special rates for residents. The Mandara shop is worth a look, as they not only carry exclusively the Elemis line, which they describe as "flying off the shelves," but a number of other fine skin care products, many of which are on sale at this time. Savings of twenty to fifty percent can be had on some of the top line of skin and body care products in their shop, filled with the delightful scent of Exotic Frangipani from Elemis, and other fragrances that are how we aspire for our bodies smell. All are very tempting, and at the special prices on many of them, now quite affordable.

Vacations are a time to be pampered. Holidays are coming, and the gift giving challenge can easily be answered with a collection of body care products from Mandara Spa, or a treatment package from their new menu. Even the price list smells delicious, so stop by, and pick one up.